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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/006,580	12/04/2001	Ulrich Grimm	A-3196	3530

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EXAMINER

MILIA, MARK R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 04/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/006,580

Applicant(s)

GRIMM ET AL.

Examiner

Mark R. Milia

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 January 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment was received on 1/20/06 and has been entered and made of record. Currently, claims 1-6 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 1/20/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's arguments regarding the rejection of claims 1-6, more specifically claims 1 and 4, wherein on pages 5-8, the applicant asserts that the reference of Reddersen does not contain any suggestion that the connection between a host and a subscriber is designed. The examiner respectfully disagrees as the reference of Reddersen does suggest such a feature. Particularly, Reddersen discloses that certain interconnect cables are associated with certain host computers to ensure proper configuration and performance (see column 4 lines 23-36). The applicant also asserts that claims 1 and 4 of the current application discloses only one computer system (host), which is different from Reddersen as Reddersen discloses various computer systems (hosts). The examiner agrees that Reddersen discloses potential connection with a number of host computers. However, Reddersen discloses

connecting to only one host computer at any one time. Further, the examiner would like to point out that the examiner has the burden of examining the claims using the broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification and as such, the current claim language does not exclude the possibility of allowing connection with a plurality of host computers. Thus, Reddersen discloses all of the limitations recited in claims 1-6, as currently written.

Therefore, the rejection of claims 1-6, as cited in the previous Office Action dated 9/20/05, under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), as being anticipated by Reddersen et al., is maintained and repeated in this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

4. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Reddersen.

Regarding claims 1 and 4, Reddersen discloses a device for defining control system participants, comprising: a control system configured to control a printing machine, said control system including a central computer and a plurality of participants, said central computer said participants interacting with in order to carry out processes (see Figs. 1, 2, 4, and 14, column 2 line 66-column 3 line 3, column 3 lines 51-58, and column 6 lines 8-20, reference shows a peripheral device, which may be a printer,

containing a plurality of contacts located on a circuit board, which is analogous to the participants set forth in the limitation), a bus system including lines, said participants being connected to one another via said lines of said bus system (see Figs. 2-4 and column 3 line 3-column 4 line 21, reference shows edge contacts/connectors connected to each other through electrical lines, which is analogous to a bus system including lines), said lines of said bus system and said participants having respective plugs connecting said lines to said participants (see column 3 lines 3-35), and at least given ones said plugs of said lines of said bus system having reserved plug contacts, said reserved plug contacts being provided with at least one galvanic link (see Figs. 3 and 4, column 3 line 59-column 4 line 21, and column 5 line 57-column 6 line 7, reference shows the electrical connection of edge contacts, which is analogous to a galvanic link as it serves the same purpose and function, and therefore the reference anticipates the limitation).

Regarding claims 2 and 5, Reddersen discloses the device discussed in claims 1 and 4, and further discloses wherein said at least one galvanic link is connected to a given voltage potential (see Fig. 8, Table A, and column 3 line 51-column 5 line 56, reference shows that edge contacts can be electrically connected, referred to as "jumped", and as a voltage is applied via the interconnect cable plug, a voltage potential will exist between the circuit board and the connector plug which is applying the voltage, therefor the reference anticipates the limitation).

Regarding claims 3 and 6, Reddersen discloses the device discussed in claims 1 and 4, and further discloses wherein said reserved plug contacts are free connections of

a respective one of said plugs, said at least one galvanic link is fitted to said free connections (see Figs. 3 and 4, column 3 line 59-column 4 line 21, and column 5 line 57-column 6 line 7).

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark R. Milia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7408. The examiner can normally be reached M-F 8:00am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler M. Lamb can be reached at (571) 272-7406. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mark R. Milia
Examiner
Art Unit 2625

MRM

JOSEPH R. POKRZYWA
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART DIVISION 2625
